PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



OUT OF STORAGE Workers carry yellow ballot boxes of old which were taken out of storage to hold 217 certificates of canvass (CoC) and 551 election returns into the Batasang Pambansa in Quezon City on Monday night before the national canvassing of votes for president and vice president. A CoC is a document, printed and electronic, containing the total number of votes a candidate got in a city, municipality and province. [illegible]

VP CoCs may delay count

WHAT'S INSIDE

Veep race issues seen as canvass starts



DAY OF RECKONING Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and Speaker Prospero Nograles jointly preside over Congress sitting as the national board of canvassers on Tuesday. With the rules of canvass approved, the national canvassing of votes for president and vice president may now begin. [illegible]

By Gil C. Cabacungan and Christian V. Esguerra

CONGRESS YESTERDAY APPROVED IN A JOINT session the rules on the canvassing of votes but lingering questions on the authenticity of 278 certificates of canvass (CoC) threaten to delay the proclamation of the next president and vice president.

Sen. Edgardo Angara said it was more likely that there would be more questions on the CoCs for vice president than the president.

"Although it is probable that the president and vice president would be proclaimed separately, I'm confident they will both be named in June," Angara said.

Election lawyer Sixto Brillantes, Aquino's point man in the congressional canvass, said his camp was satisfied with the rules.

"They're good, they're quick, unless Mar Roxas (Aquino's running mate) or Erap (Estrada) is planning something," Brillantes said.

He said the process was quick in the sense that the committee would just look at the printed and electronic CoCs.

"If there's no discrepancy, (the protester) has no choice. You cannot raise anything. And when you raise something, you should produce your own CoCs, which wouldn't work," Brillantes added.

The actual canvassing of votes may start in a few races

VP COCS A[illegible]

Automated polls spawn automatic protests

By Kristine L. Alave and Norman Bordadora

THE AUTOMATED ELECTION system has produced more, and not fewer, complaints from candidates who cannot accept defeat, officials of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) said yesterday.

The Comelec secretariat has received from losing gubernatorial and congressional candidates "more than 100" electoral protests and petitions for annulment of proclamation, Commissioner Rene Sarmiento said.

"That's our culture," Commissioner Nicodemo Ferrer said. "There are winners and those who were cheated."

Ferrer said the complaints and protests were more than the poll body had expected. "We thought that because of the automated elections, the complaints will decrease. But [they] did not," he said.

But according to former Comelec Chair Christian Monsod, a preoccupation with speed in delivering election results with little

AUTOMATED A[illegible]

Willie says sorry, wants out but can't

By Marinel R. Cruz

"WOWOWILLIE" IS SORRY AND wants out—but it won't be that easy.

Popular game show host Willie Revillame has apologized to the ABS-CBN management for a recent outburst he made on live TV in which the megabucks celebrity and political endorser threatened to resign if the network did not fire a critical show biz media personality.

The network yesterday said it

WILLIE A[illegible]

WHINERS AND LOSERS

Locsin: Complainants serve public

By Leila B. Salaverria

DEFEATED CANDIDATES WHO have cried fraud and even linked Commission on Elections (Comelec) directors to vote rigging may sound like whiners but they are doing the public a service, Makati Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr. said yesterday.

Locsin said more evidence of supposed cheating was coming out now than in the last presidential election, which sparked the "Hello Garci" scandal and calls for President Macapagal-Arroyo to step down, even if the only evidence at that time was a phone conversation.

"Here you have documentary evidence of certainly suspicious transactions," Locsin said at a House of Representatives committee hearing on alleged irregularities in the May 10 elections. "It is a public service that they bother to come here and bring up these complaints."

Locsin said the defeated candidates could have saved themselves the trouble of testifying in Congress and spent their

LOCSIN A[illegible]

'Whiners who cry fraud deserve to lose'

By Tarra Quismundo

LOSING CANDIDATES WHO CRY fraud and claim to have received offers to cheat in the May 10 automated polls "do not deserve to be elected" for not reporting the cases immediately, according to President Macapagal-Arroyo's former election lawyer.

Romulo Macalintal, who defended Ms Arroyo against fraud allegations in the 2004 elections, yesterday described as "impossible" stories of fraud attempts now coming out in Congress.

He scolded the complainants for their "sins of omission" for reporting the cases only after they lost.

"You really deserve to lose the elections if that's what you

WHINERS A[illegible]

Liar! Liar! Comelec exec loses cool, kicks chairs

By Kristine L. Alave

RAISED VOICES AND UPturned chairs marred a discussion on ballot secrecy folders yesterday at the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

The scene was a meeting called by the entire commission on the controversial P700-million contract for plastic folders for use in the May 10 elections. The contract had earlier been awarded to OTC Paper Supply Co.

Per former Comelec lawyer Melchor Magdamo's account to reporters, Commissioners Nicodemo Ferrer and Armie

LIAR A[illegible]

SC legitimized no digital signature, says lawyer

By Norman Bordadora

THE ABSENCE OF DIGITAL SIGnatures from the boards of election inspectors (BEIs) on election returns transmitted by the counting machines is against the poll automation law, but has been "legitimized" by the Supreme Court, a professor at the UP College of Law reminded yesterday.

Lawyer Harry Roque is one of the convenors of the Concerned Citizens' Movement (CCM) that filed two petitions against the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and Smartmatic-TIM's automation of the May 10 elections.

"Rightfully or wrongfully, this has been legitimized by the Supreme Court" when it dismissed petitions against the automated elections, Roque said of the Comelec guideline that told BEIs to no longer encode digital signatures for the election returns generated by the precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machines.

Roque said the CCM in its petitions against the Comelec and Smartmatic, supplier of the PCOS machines, included the issue of the instructions to the BEIs to forego the encoding of the digital signatures as one of the arguments against the auto-

SC LEGITIMIZED A[illegible]



Auctioneers here to sell: Imelda gems not for sale

By Philip C. Tubeza

ONE OFFICIAL SEES A GOLD RUSH. FOR the rest of his peers, it's trash.

Representatives of auction houses Sotheby's and Christie's are here to check out the jewelry confiscated from former first lady Imelda Marcos, but the Presidential

AUCTIONEERS A[illegible]

Second FrontPage



JOB FOR NOYNOY

Finance seeks hike in VAT

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF) HAS SUGGESTED THAT the next administration adopt a proposal to increase the value-added tax (VAT) rate from 12 to 15 percent, warning that efforts to merely enhance current revenue collection schemes would not solve the government's daunting fiscal problem.

GMA lowers tariff on oil, other products

By TJ Burgonio

Cebu graduate tops CPA exam

[illegible]







Unlikely NP-LP alliance in Congress in the works

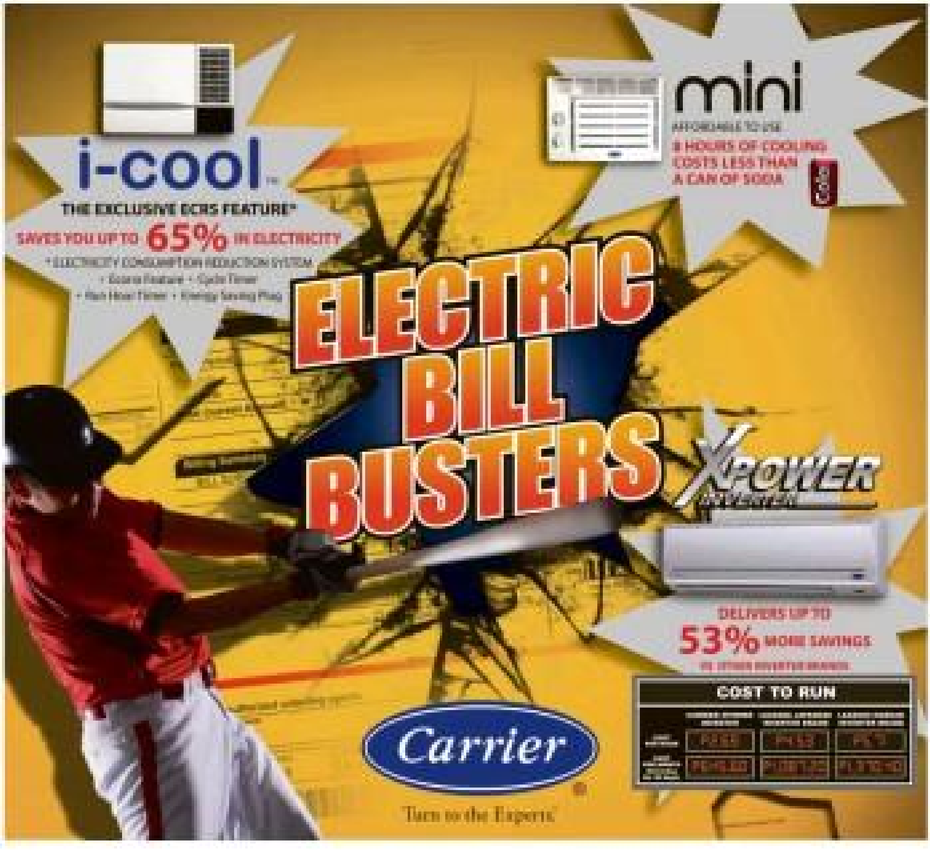
Villar has members

Coalition type

Field situation







'Tabaco' joins call for Noynoy to quit smoking

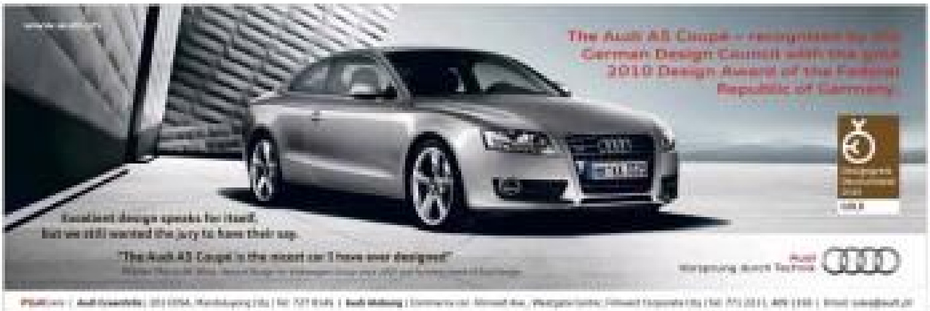
Secret to long life

Personal choice

Bad for citizenry







Runway repairs cause flight delays at Naia

By Jerome Aning

UP TO A DOZEN FLIGHTS WERE DElayed yesterday because of repair work on a portion of the runway at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia).

Diverted to Clark

Naia projects

AllCard co-hosts the successful Specialized Business Solutions Summit



Japan sends Interpol man to hunt fugitives in RP

By Jerome Aning

JAPAN HAS DEPLOYED ONE of its officers in Interpol to be its "point man" in the Philippines to help local authorities track down Japanese fugitives in the country, the Bureau of Immigration (BI) said.

In a statement, Floro Balato Jr., BI Interpol chief, said the Japan Interpol liaison officer, Police Insp. Takashi Furukawa, was a member of the delegation of Japanese police officials that called on Immigration Commissioner Marcelino Libanan on May 20.

Libanan and other immigration officials briefed the visitors on the progress of the bureau's drive against foreign fugitives, which has resulted in the arrest and deportation of many wanted persons to their homelands.

The commissioner demonstrated to the Japanese the state of the art equipment and technology the bureau is using in its enforcement and intelligence operations.

Furukawa and his colleagues were also briefed on BI Interpol's powers, functions and operational capabilities.

Among those in the delegation was Japanese Embassy First Secretary Toshio Suzuki. They also checked out the BI's facilities, including its [illegible] division, national operations center, computer section and alien registration division.

Balato said Furukawa will be coordinating with BI [illegible] locating and arresting Japanese fugitives hiding in the country.

Before being posted in Manila, Furukawa was assistant director of the Gifu Prefectural Police. He used to be bureau chief of the criminal investigation unit of the Japanese police agency.

Balato, a lawyer who is also BI spokesperson, said the dispatch of a liaison officer by Japan [illegible] to Manila was "a manifestation of Japan's confidence in the capability of the BI to arrest Japanese fugitives who had sought refuge in the country."

Libanan formed the BI Interpol unit in June last year to spearhead the agency's campaign against wanted foreign criminals hiding in the country.

Interpol, or the International Criminal Police Organization, is a global association that [illegible] police cooperation among 188 member-countries. [illegible]ed in 1923, it is headquartered in Lyon, France.

Ilocos land is ours, says Bongbong

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO RIGHT TO nullify a lease agreement entered into by former President Ferdinand Marcos and the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) involving a 37-hectare property in Ilocos Norte, senator-elect Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. said yesterday.

In asking the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court to dismiss the Presidential Commission on Good Government's complaint against the agreement, Marcos said his father was the lawful owner of the property and the agreement was lawful.

He said the Sandiganbayan had no jurisdiction over the complaint.

24 years

"It has been 24 years since the late president was deposed. The PCGG or other appropriate government entity should not have waited this long to question the validity of the 1978 lease contract while all the time reaping the benefits of the millions of pesos in rental fees that it has been charging its lessees," Marcos said.

The PCGG is tasked with locating and confiscating the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses.

Last March it asked the Sandiganbayan to nullify the contract and revert to the state the 37-ha property being claimed by the Marcos family in Paoay, where the "Malacañang of the North" was built right beside Paoay Lake.

In 1978, Marcos and the PTA entered into a lease contract for parcels of land in Paoay. The PTA rented the property until December 2003 for only P1 a year on condition that the structures and other improvements the PTA would build would become the property of the Marcoses.

Tourist destination

The PTA developed the property into a tourist destination.

But the PCGG said the lease contract violated the law. It said there was no proof that Marcos was the real owner of the property and that the contract allowed the dictator to "profit enormously at the expense of the government."

In its response, the PTA said its actions had been lawful, as it asked the court to uphold the lease contract or to turn over the developments to the PTA should it decide to void the agreement.

But in his answer, the younger Marcos, who recently won a six-year Senate term, said the Sandiganbayan had no jurisdiction over the PCGG's complaint.

Legal owner

Marcos said his father legally owned the property, which was not included in any sequestration order or forfeiture case the government had filed against the Marcos family.

He said the Sandiganbayan itself in 2002 dismissed an annulment of contract suit the PCGG had filed in 1991 against Marcos crony Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. due to lack of jurisdiction.

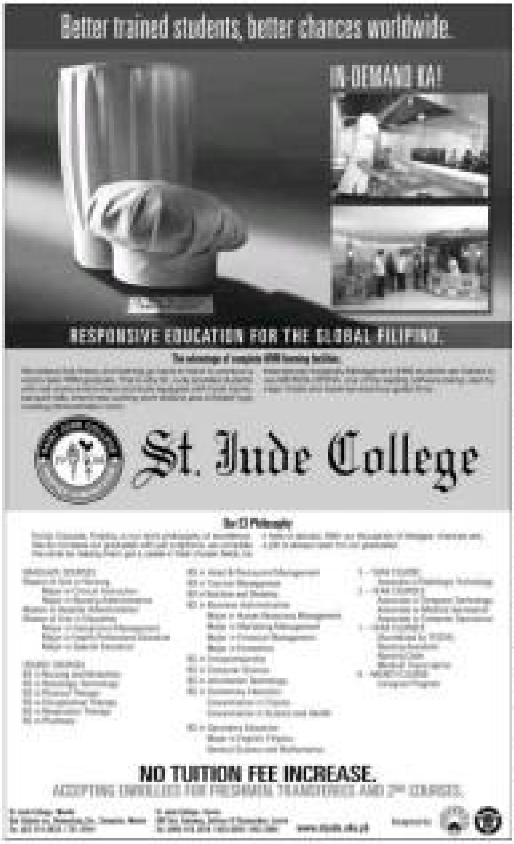
The Supreme Court upheld the dismissal, Marcos added.

The lease agreement was born of his father's goodwill and was a "gift" from him to the Ilocanos, Marcos said.

He said his father could have just sold the property but "instead, to aid the tourism industry and thereby generate jobs and income for the Ilocanos, he chose to lease more than 37 hectares of prime property to the PTA for the measly sum of one peso a year for 25 years."







Automated polls spawn automatic protests



SARMIENTO: More than 100 electoral protests filed.



HONRADO: There's an apparent premium on speed at the expense of due process and accuracy.

Like 2007

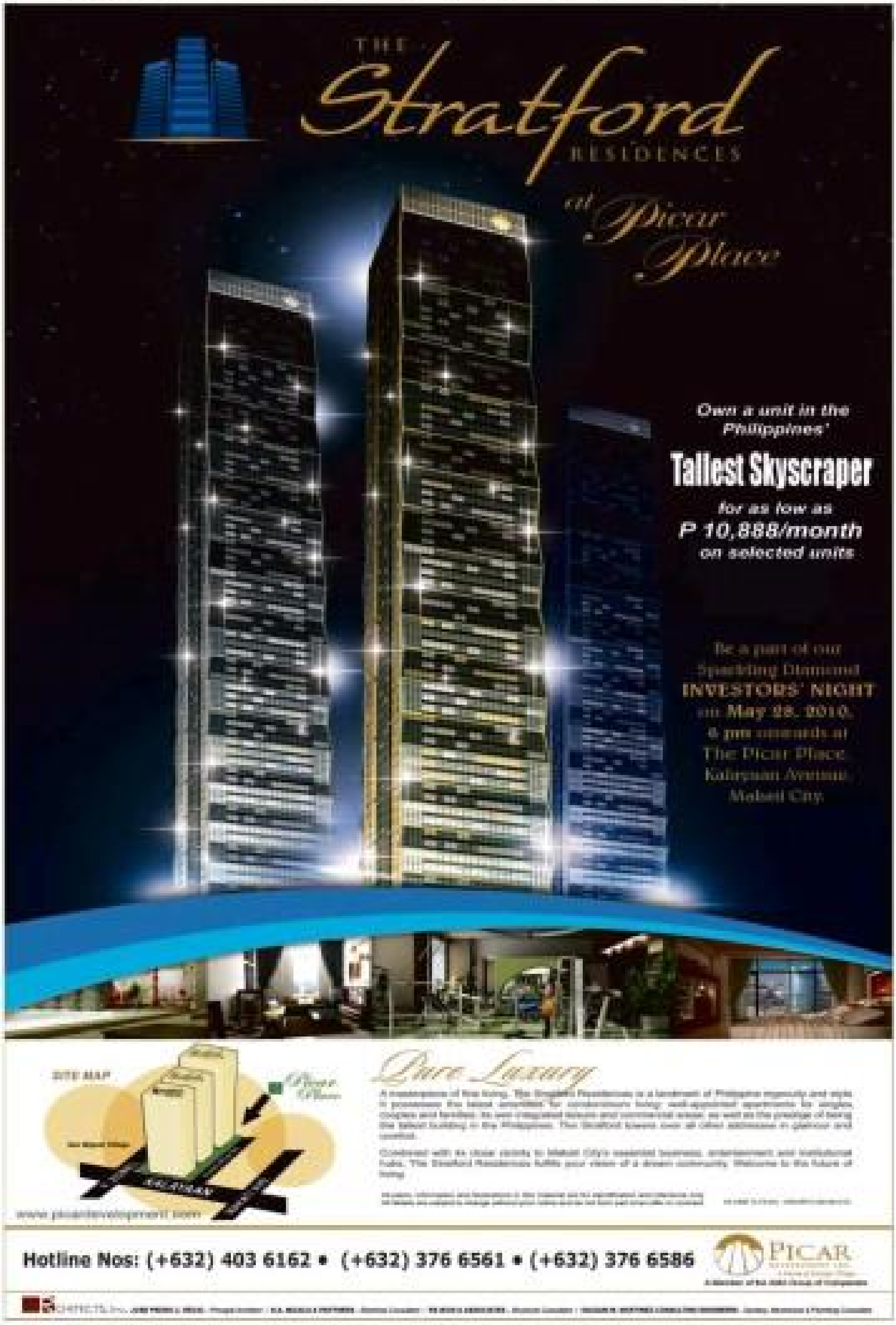
Formalize complaint

Snail's pace

Smartmatic must explain

In past elections

The Stratford Residences at The Picar Place:
a landmark to watch for in Makati City



GMA 'not happy' over reports of poll fraud, says Puno

'Enterprising idiots'

VP CoCs may delay count; veep race issues seen before canvass



Definitions

Opening of boxes

More questions on VP CoCs

Simultaneous proclamation

Printed, electronic CoCs

Addressing discrepancies

Better left to PET

SC legitimized no digital signature, says lawyer



Own digital signature

Upheld with finality

Claims disputed

Locsin: Complainants serve public

The article's body text is too low-resolution to transcribe reliably. Its visible subheadings include "Comelec vows purge", "4 regional directors", "Tagaytay case", "Nat'l races not affected", "No to manual count", "Baseless, preposterous" and "'Like bitter old man'".



LOCSIN



Hot days, night are over, but rains not yet in sight





CORONA'S FIRST ORDER

Sale of Angat power plant blocked by SC







LOSING



ILLEGAL POSSESSION



THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT

'Whiners who didn't report fraud deserve to lose'



MACALINTAL



GOLEZ

Hearsay

'Impossible'

IT experts

Can't be proven



NICODEMO FERRER

Liar! Liar! Comelec ...

Death threat

He yelled first

SC names new judge in Dacer murder trial

By Dona Pazzibugan and Tina G. Santos

Two counts of murder

Bring Ping back

Immigration bureau forms citizens' groups vs red tape

Philippine Daily Inquirer

Opinion

Kamikaze

Editorial



Can Noynoy really stop corruption?

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz



Truth

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros



What went wrong

Analysis

Amando Doronila



More unwelcome advice for Noynoy

At Large

Rina Jimenez-David



GMA's 'tuko' or 'kapit-tuko'

Looking Back

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Herbal medicine

Pinoy Kasi

Michael L. Tan



LETTERS

Ombudsman unfairly maligned

spokesman, Office of the Ombudsman

Take oath before grassroots rep

Vet hails new C-in-C

Automation overlooks 'lingering illness' in RP's political system

List of schools raising tuition growing



ILOILO CITY—TWENTY four schools in Western Visayas have increased tuition and other fees this school year, seven times more than the number of schools that raised fees last year, according to the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd).

Winners see no massive fraud, but also complain

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Benguet's green agenda

By Delmar Carino
La Trinidad, Benguet

MOUNTS PULAG AND DATA, BENGUET'S MAjor national parks, are expected to become the gauge on how far the political mandate received by newly elected officials would go against environmental degradation.

[illegible]

Shared burden

[illegible]



PORTIONS of forested slopes of Mount Pulag are cleared by farmers to make way for vegetable gardens, like this patch in the Kabayan (Benguet)-Tinoc (Ifugao) boundary.

> The bid to save Mt. Pulag and Mt. Data depends much on how to reconcile conflicting ancestral land and environment laws

[illegible]

Priority agenda

[illegible]



Aeta folk mine ancestral domain for black sand

By Robert Gonzaga
Botolan, Zambales

IN A RIVER BED LAID BARE AND DRY BY THE searching heat in Botolan, Zambales, a fledgling community of Aeta people has started to tap the harsh environment to sustain their families.

[illegible]

Willie says sorry, wants out but can't



3-month leave

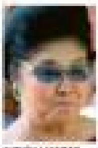
Contract obligations

P35M a month

Second incident

Padilla, Montano

Auctioneers here to sell





Which to auction first?

Public showing

Three collections

'Not a midnight sale'

Lady boxer Gabuco bows to world champ

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Associate Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

SPORTS



Beermen stake streak vs resurgent Kings

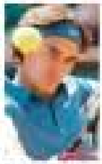
By Musong R. Castillo

Kazakhs pin 2nd loss on RP five

By June Navarro



Federer powers thru but Murray, Serena toil



FEDERER Cruising first-round display.



Lady Stags force KO title game

By Jasmine W. Payo

Lions try to firm up FilOil quarters bid, battle Chiefs

ICTSI-FOREST HILLS GOLF

In-form Juvic leads field

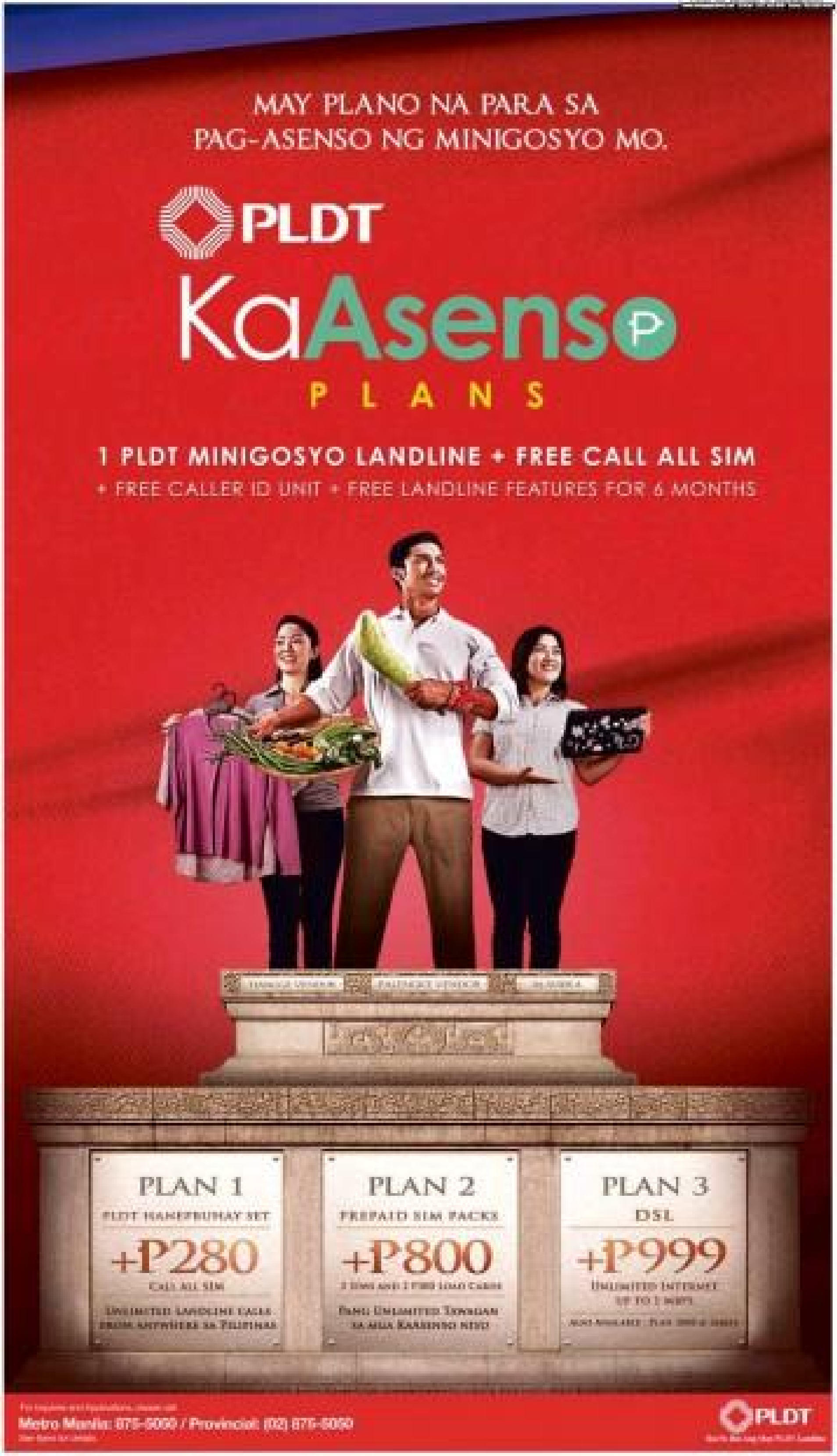
Orlando shows spark of Magic, halts Boston

TAGAYTAY CHESS

So, Gomez share lead

SPORTSWATCH

'Noli and Albert' 4-cocker Friday


MAY PLANO NA PARA SA
PAG-ASENSO NG MINIGOSYO MO.
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PLDT

Aplus METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday



Navy officer found dead in AFP camp



SCHOOL ART
Teachers, parents and students join hands in cleaning, repairing and preparing [illegible] Elementary School in Dalpan, Manila, for the opening of classes on June 15.

Police: Victim had bullet wound in the head, but no suicide note

By Julie M. Aurelio

A JUNIOR OFFICER OF THE NAVY WAS FOUND dead with a gunshot wound in the head inside his room at the barracks of Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City on Monday night.

[illegible]

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

12 May 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2010 - 0013

ANNEX 1

Template in Implementation of Administrative Order No. 2010-0013 (Requiring Graphic Health Information on Tobacco Product Packages, Adopting Measures to Ensure that Tobacco Product Packaging and Labeling do not Promote Tobacco Products by any Means that are False, Misleading, Deceptive or Likely to Create an Erroneous Impression, and Matters Related Thereto)

Pursuant to Section VI.A.(3) of Administrative Order No. 2010-0013, this template shall govern specifications regarding graphic health information, packaging and labelling of unit packets and packages of tobacco products, including package inserts and onserts, and any outside packaging and labelling of tobacco products.

1. ***Size and Position of Graphic Health Information.*** – The graphic health information shall occupy the upper portions of each tobacco product packet or package, including package inserts and onserts, and any outside packaging and labelling of such products for sale, distribution or importation within the country, and no less than thirty percent (30%) of the front panel and sixty percent (60%) of the back panel (or all corresponding panels of the unit packet or package if in non-standard packaging) in a manner that ensures maximum visibility.

   The graphic health information shall not be obscured, covered, or undermined, in part or in whole, or obliterated or obscured when the tobacco packet or package is opened or closed.

2. ***Specifications.*** – The graphic health information shall conform to the following specifications:

   a. The graphic health information shall be printed in full color, with the minimum resolution of 300 dpi using at least 4-color printing.

   b. The graphic health information shall in no case measure less than 1,290 square millimeters (approximately 2 square inches) in size, with the shortest side measuring no less than 25 millimeters (approximately 1 inch), for the front panel, and no less than 2,580 sq. mm (approximately 4 sq inches) for the back panel, with the shortest side measuring no less than 50 millimeters (approximately 2 inches), regardless of the type of packaging and labelling for cigarettes.

   c. The statement forming part of the graphic health information shall be placed on a location where it will be prominently displayed. The statement shall use up no more than thirty percent (30%) of the entire area of the graphic health information and shall be in a clearly legible type and in contrast by typography, layout and colors. In no case shall the statement obscure the picture or pictogram.

Variations. – The following variations shall be strictly applied, in compliance with the provisions of Administrative Order No. 2010 – 0013.



















Manila cops dismantle shabu lab



COOL SURPRISE
[illegible]

By [illegible] and [illegible]

MANILA POLICEMEN raided on Monday a shabu laboratory in an apartment in the heart of Chinatown, arresting two foreigners and confiscating some P5 million worth of raw materials and equipment for the making of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu.

[illegible]

Lethargic antidrug unit axed

By [illegible]

[illegible]

New chief

[illegible]

PCSO says Jovy was misled about deal

[illegible]

Two more fires hit metropolis

[illegible]

Kid Peña seeking healing

By [illegible]

[illegible]

Former ally

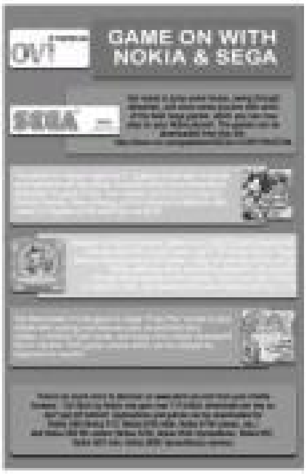
[illegible]

Binay grip

[illegible]



REELECTED IN PARAÑAQUE
[illegible]





The World

Terror raps vs Thaksin

BANGKOK—A Thai court ordered an arrest warrant on Tuesday for former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on terrorism charges, accusing the fugitive leader of fomenting two months of unrest in Bangkok that left 88 people dead.



AP

Seoul resumes psychological warfare with rival

AP

WorldBriefs

US spy missions

AP

Ultra-pure heroin

AP

Oil tax increase

AP

Drug lord's stronghold

MJ impersonator a thriller



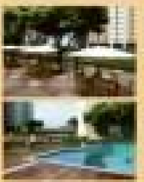
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FEDERAL LAND

IN THIS ISSUE

- Biz Buzz: Manolo's swan song /B7
- SMC seeks partner for food unit Pure Foods /B8

BUSINESS

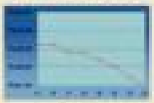


MVP seen instilling cost efficiency in Meralco

MANILA ELECTRIC CO. YESTERDAY NAMED BUSINESSman Manuel V. Pangilinan as its new president and chief executive officer, a move that is expected to usher in a new era of higher cost-efficiency and cash dividend payout for the country's biggest power retailer.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Global jitters send stocks, peso plunging

SMC buys 3 coal mines in Mindanao







MVP seen instilling cost efficiency . . .

From page B1

[illegible]

Global jitters send . . .

From page B1

[illegible]

SMC . . .

From page B1

[illegible]



Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

Security Bank seen on track to meet goals

Posts 20.1% return on equity in Q1

By Daxim L. Lucas

PUBLICLY LISTED Security Bank Corp. reported a strong return on equity level at the end of the first quarter, allowing it to maintain its aggressive dividend policy, the bank said yesterday.

In a statement, the mid-sized financial institution reported that its shareholders have so far gotten back 20.1 percent for every peso invested in the first quarter (while more is to be considered). This was broadly at par with the 20.8 percent return on equity the bank recorded in 2009.

"Successful results enabled Security Bank to maintain strong dividend payments," it said, announcing that the board approved a regular cash dividend of P0.25 a share and a special cash dividend of P0.75 a share for the first semester of 2010 with May 26 as record date and June 11 as payment date.

Bank president and CEO Alberto S. Villarosa said he expected the bank to meet its revenue and income goals for the year.

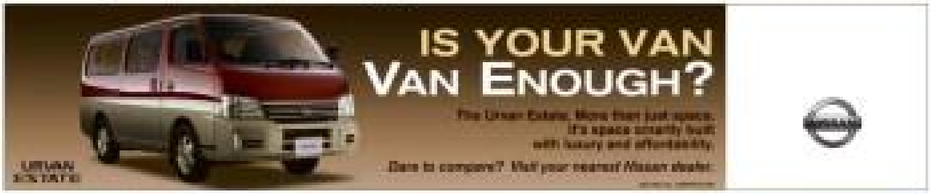
"Notwithstanding continued concerns over the global economy, we are optimistic that the Philippine economy and the banking industry will continue the upward trajectory in 2010," he said.

Last year, Security Bank reported a 32.8-percent year-on-year growth in net income to P3.1 billion.











BUSINESS

Tanco pledges 4% Meralco stake to MVP

45M shares in utility company valued at P7.56B

By Paolo G. Montecillo and Doris C. Dumlao

BUSINESSMAN EUSEBIO H. Tanco has sold his group's 4 percent stake in Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to the group of Manuel V. Pangilinan, giving the power firm's incoming CEO a more solid foothold in the country's largest power distributor.

In an interview, Tanco, who among other businesses owns the STI group of schools, said the group had agreed to sell its stake in the power firm to Pangilinan for a "fairly healthy profit."

Pangilinan chairs local infrastructure giant Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC).

"(We're selling) well above market value," he said, but did not give the selling price.

But MPIC president Jose Ma. K. Lim said the group had not yet acquired any new Meralco shares, although Pangilinan earlier said that he was in discussions with Tanco for his 4 percent stake.

The ultimate goal, Pangilinan had said, is to end up with over 50 percent of the power firm.

"We haven't bought any yet. The Tanco group just said they were willing to sell," Lim said in a separate interview.

The Meralco stake, involving around 45 million shares equivalent to 4 percent of the company's voting rights, were previously held by Tanco's personal firm, PhilPlans Inc.

Based on Meralco's closing share price on Tuesday of P168, those shares are worth P7.56 billion.

PhilPlans reportedly acquired its Meralco shares from the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) earlier this year at [illegible] each.

Meanwhile, through several subsidiaries, the Pangilinan group last year acquired more than 40 percent of the power firm's total shares from the Lopez family and from the open market.

This was to fend off the entry of diversifying conglomerate San Miguel Corp., which planned to use Meralco's extensive network of power lines as a jumping board for the food and beverage firm's foray into the competitive telecommunications industry, thus threatening the position of PLDT.

Manolo's swan song

STOCKHOLDERS AND employees of Manila Electric Co. gave Manuel "Manolo" Lopez a standing ovation yesterday during his farewell speech as chief executive of the country's biggest power retailer. [illegible]

[illegible]

Doris C. Dumlao

A different ballgame

[illegible]

Chief energy adviser

[illegible]

Caticlan redux

[illegible]

Not interested

[illegible]

Biz Buzz

By the staff

Get business alerts and a preview of Biz Buzz the evening before it comes out. Text INQ BIZ BUZZ to [illegible]

BUSINESS

SMC seeks partner for food unit Pure Foods

Conglomerate also considering sale of as much as 51%

MGI eyes ₱1.7B loan facility for Makiling plant



WESTERN UNION JOINS PNB

Gov't raises ₱8.5B from sale of 20-year bonds

Another batch of sugar import rights awarded

Power utility expects ₱11B in net earnings

MOTORING

Editor: Jong R. Amano

Making the most of track-days

With the proper supervision, average motorists can slowly hone their skills in safe, defensive driving techniques

By Botchi Santos

WITH THE RISE IN POPULARITY of track-days being offered by car clubs and enthusiasts alike from the private sector, and big-name independent racing shops and even manufacturers joining the fray, is there any value to us, the average motorist on joining these track-days?

The arguments against joining track-days with your own privately owned, daily-driven vehicle are valid: accelerated wear and tear on your vehicle is one. Racing Legend, driving guru and motoring journalist Pocholo Ramirez of the famed Ramirez racing family says that a single kilometer on the track is equivalent to at least 10 kilometers of regular driving. No wonder avid track-goers prepare a second car to use almost exclusively on the track.

Second is the risk of accidents happening on the track. You can seriously damage your vehicle and cause risk to life and limb should you get into an accident on the race track. Robert Coyiuto III, a director of Prudential Guarantee and Assurance Inc, the country's leading automotive and other non-life insurance company said that vehicles involved in any accidents that occur on the race track will not be covered by the insurance policy as it is strictly listed in the insurance contract. A majority of other insurance companies have similar policies in their contracts.

On top of that, having the vehicle towed from the race tracks in our country (Clark, Subic and Batangas) back to Metro Manila will easily run in the region of P12,000 to P15,000 based on experience. Add the repair bills to the car, plus the downtime and the lack of a useable vehicle for the next few days or weeks, months while waiting for parts to arrive etc and you basically rendered yourself immobile for the most part.

But why does the allure of track-days continue?

Curiosity is key. Plus a sense of accomplishment, like a rite of passage for young male car enthusiasts especially.

Second is, and probably the most important, yet oft taken for granted reason, proper safety driver's training.

In many European countries where they experience the four seasons, proper driver's training is a very expensive and crucial requirement to acquiring a driver's license. Lots of money are spent on driver training, tuition and classroom sessions where learning drivers spend hundreds of hours immersed in lessons on driving, traffic laws, and even basic physics theories involving car, road, weather etc and a license appearing out of nowhere. In our country, the implementation of such a policy would be unpopular and decried and gone. This improper attitude will only lead to more improperly trained drivers with poor know-how and knowledge, posing a real menace to other motorists and pedestrians.

In the past, high-end vehicle importers brought in professional driving instructors to give basic short courses on safe, defensive driving techniques with a stress on utilizing the latest active safety systems on their vehicles such as ABS-EBD equipped brakes, dynamic traction and stability control, anti-skid and roll-control systems etc. But not everyone can afford these training sessions, let alone the vehicles.

Back in 2005, I was given the opportunity to drive on the Mobilistas Safety Driver's Training track, part of the Fuji International Speedway complex owned by Toyota Motor Corporation. The Mobilistas track is a gigantic skid-pad with a banked section and a slippery surface simulator made of a special rubber-plastic composite that, when wet becomes very slippery and difficult to drive straight. I spent an entire afternoon going sideways and finding control, slowly regaining my confidence and learning how to brake, steer and maintain control slowly in a surface simulating black ice. The closest experience would be driving over diesel and oil covered roads, which rarely happens anyway. But in the event that it does happen, what should we do?

The real value of track days is that, with the proper supervision, average motorists can slowly hone their skills in safe, defensive driving techniques. From the proper seating position, to learning that steering is a pushing rather than a pulling motion, to learning how to brake effectively especially on older, non-ABS equipped vehicles and learning how to react to sudden changes in driving conditions, plus doing it over and over again can make one a better driver over a wider range of driving conditions. Techniques such as threshold braking, skid avoidance, proper emergency lane-changing techniques and the right cornering line through a curve will not only enhance your overall driving repertoire but ingrain the correct set of almost instinctive habits especially when faced with a dangerous driving condition. As a bonus, you will learn how to drive faster, more efficiently and more effectively without using up more fuel or abuse your car because as any professional driver will tell you, a well-maintained, well-kept and well-tuned car will help you go faster, safely.

MAKING B2-2

ISUZU'S NEW CAMPAIGN

Shift in driving attitude for cleaner air



Mitsubishi posts 51% growth in 4 months as April sales surge

Making the most..

Shell search for Smartest Drivers on

Are you a gas saver or a gas guzzler?



Driving Tips

ECO DRIVING TIPS

Save all road users



THE AUTHOR with Michelle Yeoh and her husband FIA president Jean Todt



ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla Mendoza

WHY

VULNERABLE

SAFER ROADS

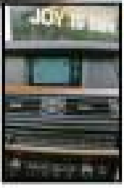
MOTORING



Gimme Five







By Tessa R. Salazar

IN 5 HOURS, INQUIRER Motoring learns 5 things to like about the soon-to-be launched BMW 5 Series.

[illegible]

1 [illegible]

2 [illegible]

3 [illegible]

4 [illegible]

5 [illegible]



Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan · Contributing Editor Lia B. Bernardo

LIFESTYLE Parenting



Two mothers raise their special children



APPLES Sotto and son Miro

Mariter Macapagal discovers that parents, who cope more emotionally than rationally, have kids who outperform those of rational upbringing

By Cathy S. Babao-Guballa

"ACCEPT THE CHILDREN the way we accept trees—with gratitude, because they are a blessing but do not have expectations or desires. You don't expect trees to change, you love them as they are." —Isabel Allende

Raising a child with special needs takes a special kind of love, a special kind of patience.

Acceptance, resilience and unconditional love make all the difference in raising such a child.

Advocating for him and going the distance make the stories of Mariter and Arthur Macapagal, and Apples Sotto and her son Miro Gonzalez, all the more exemplary and heartwarming.

Andrei was born to Arthur and Mariter on Sept. 30, 1968. At around age 5, he was diagnosed with autism.

Their family's journey from Andrei's early days, to his diagnosis and treatment is documented in the book, "Our Andrei: Living With Autism," as told by Arthur, Mariter and Andrei's siblings Alex and Melissa to writers Reynaldo G. Alejandro and Moonie Ramos E. Gomez.

In the '70s autism was not a familiar concept. It is to the Macapagal family's credit that they didn't keep Andrei's condition a secret.

"It took many years to accept and to understand what it was that Andrei had, but it never occurred to me or Arthur to hide this fact from the public. Andrei was our son and so we wanted, and did all we could to get him the help he needed," so

TWO C2

Two mothers raise their special children



Mino's World



Free kiddie mags on how to save planet Earth











Compact, handy lunch bags







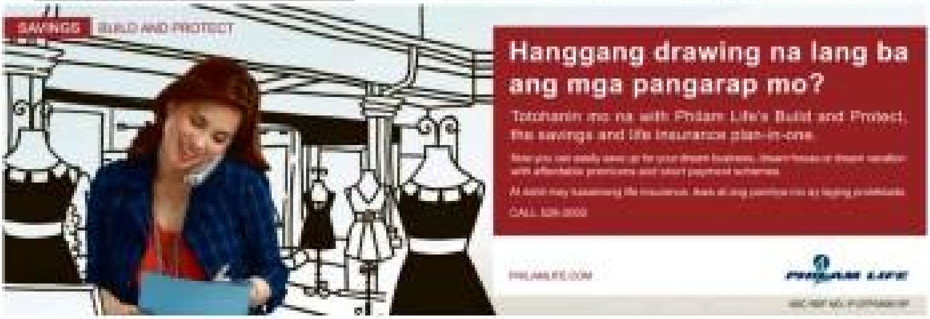


Gift certificates may soon 'live' longer

THE CONSUMER

Linda B. Bolido





Do you think your child is too short?

WHAT'S UP

Tourism personality awardees named

Baking and bread-making seminar

Workshoppers' exhibit in Intramuros

'Icons of rock' at SM malls

Manila, Cebu artists in joint show

Burnham Plan photo exhibit

LIFESTYLE Home&Entertaining



A-list accent chairs



RED Zelig accent chair with adjustable seat makes a great finishing touch to a room.

ACCENT CHAIRS ADD GREAT finishing touches to any space, creating a statement or transforming a room to a more comfortable and charming place one would like to spend lots of time in.

Our Home, the lifestyle store where one can get great designs at great prices, has an A-list of contemporary and sleekly designed accent chairs. Yves and Yaffa rocking chairs combine style and function, while contemporary Zia, Zena and Zelig designs have adjustable seats. Sit back and relax with a Yoko quilted accent chair with bent wood, while the Zaira chair adds charm to one's comfort zone.

The Accent Chair collection is available at Our Home. Visit its 20 stores nationwide or website www.ourhome.ph.



WHITE Zia accent chair with swivel and adjustable seat features. Also available in black, red and cream.



RED Zena swivel accent chair with adjustable seat.




ANNIE Garcia, Rajo Laurel, Liz Uy and Kristine Mimouli


[illegible]


STEPHEN [illegible]

Grey Goose global ambassador feted with dinner party

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH
Maurice Arcache
Photos by Allen Van Hagen using YBL Photo Solutions

THE WORLD'S BEST-TASTING VODKA recently threw a spectacular party that the Manila nightlife scene will surely not forget. [illegible]

[illegible]

Grey Goose party

[illegible]

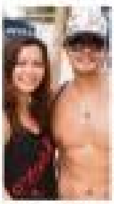

DENISSE Choa and GP Reyes

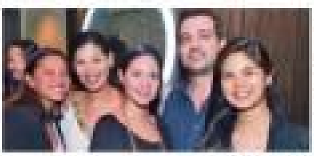

PAULINE Suaco-Juan, Mia Arcenas and Liz Uy

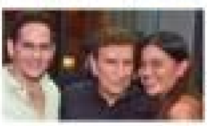

[illegible]


GORGEOUS Nivea models [illegible]


EYE-CATCHING models [illegible]


LOTUS [illegible]




TRÈS gourmands and wine lovers [illegible]


[illegible]


SPASSO Chef [illegible]


EVANGELINE [illegible]


DANNY [illegible]


TALL, dashing and very British Dimitri Lezinska, Grey Goose global ambassador

[illegible]

Nivea invades Boracay

[illegible]

Authentic Italian experience

[illegible]


ANTONI [illegible]


[illegible]


CHARLES [illegible]

[illegible]

BPI treats their preferred clients

[illegible]

Erratum

[illegible]


BPI PRESIDENT [illegible]



NEW GARDEN CLUB
With the aim of disseminating the art of gardening, the Bonsai and Suiseki Alliance of the Philippines, Inc. launches the 1st Mody Manglicmot Bonsai and Suiseki Cup, Flower and Garden Show on June 26-July 11, at Quezon Memorial Circle, Elliptical Road, Quezon City. Call David Ou at [illegible]. Officers and members of Bonsai and Suiseki Alliance of the Philippines, Inc. They are Loida P. Ligon, president; Modesto Manglicmot, vice president (external); David Ou, vice president (internal); Vic de Roxas, secretary; Alejo Villaroel Jr., assistant secretary; Adoracion S. Bernabe, treasurer; Sally Olivier, assistant treasurer; Serapion S. Morillo, PRO and Elmer Villaroel, auditor

A-list accent chairs

From page D1



DARK brown Tolla quilted rocking chair, also available in black, mocha and white.



BLACK Yoxo rocking chair with foot stool



STYLISH white Tobo quilted accent chair with foot stool

Fine bone china tableware designed by British chef

THE COLLECTION OF ROYAL DOULTON'S fine bone china tableware is designed by British chef [illegible] Gordon Ramsay.

Chef Ramsay's achievements in the culinary world include establishing Michelin-certified restaurants all over Europe, America, and Asia. The Gordon Ramsay collection offers a fresh approach to modern table setting by keeping it utterly simple and functional. Plates feature a flat [illegible] section to prevent cutlery from sliding.

The [illegible] has an exaggerated handle and a wide spout for easy, non-drip pouring. Ramsay's predominantly white collection serves as the perfect canvas for various food presentations, allowing the beauty of the dish to stand out amid the stark simplicity of its background.

This stylish and understated set, with its subtle contemporary curves and clean lines, gives you all the essentials for a perfect table setting, from dinner plates to all-purpose bowls. Gordon Ramsay by Royal Doulton brings affordable luxury to consumers everywhere.

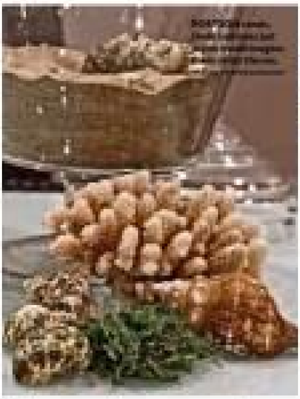
Each piece has the Royal Doulton back stamp, a hallmark of true value and versatility in a brand [illegible].

Royal Doulton is distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp. and available at Rustan's Makati.



Do-it-yourself







Sea terrarium

D.I.Y.

Genteel hacienda living returns —only two hours south of Manila





Resort community

The Escuderos' coconut plantation and heritage sprawl is shaping up into an Old World residential community







Good neighbors

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2010
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
E3
LIFESTYLE



Antiques and modern art—a treasure trove of them—make for a dream home

By Joseph D. Cortes
Contributor

IT LOOKS JUST LIKE ANY OTHER OLD house, except it isn't an old house. Dr. Gerald Salgado and wife Jo-Ann's dream home took eight years to build, mostly from parts repurposed from old homes.

"We're just so glad that the house was got finished," says Jo-Ann, daughter of Arturo's Ann, a foremost antiques trader who, until the '90s, opened her house to a variety of collectors and celebrities, including former president Joseph "Erap" Estrada and legendary star Fernando Poe Jr.

Jo-Ann says this house would have made her mom proud.

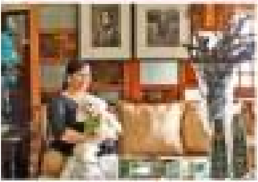
"What makes the house special is the rather unusual way it was built. Unlike regular houses that follow a

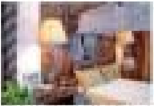
ANTIQUES C2







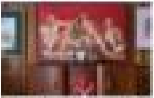




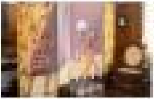
"They treat our house like a museum. One of these days, I just might charge them entrance!" says the daughter of the [illegible]

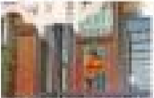


Antiques and modern art—a treasure trove of













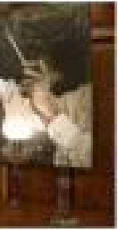




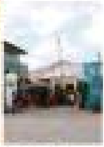


Barangay Meguyam celebrates 100% Free-esta

them—make for a dream home











BEDROOM on the third floor is brimming with more antiques and artworks



DINING room and its [illegible]

Antiques and modern . . .

From page E1

[illegible]

Much work

After eight years of work, the Salgados finally have their dream home—but they don't plan to live in it.

[illegible]



ROOM on the second floor



PAINTING by Arturo Luz is the first artwork to greet guests entering the Salgado home.

New bag for the new mom

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENT

Gay politician smitten with TV reporter

By the Entertainment staff

Got real

On the prowl

All's well for Venus

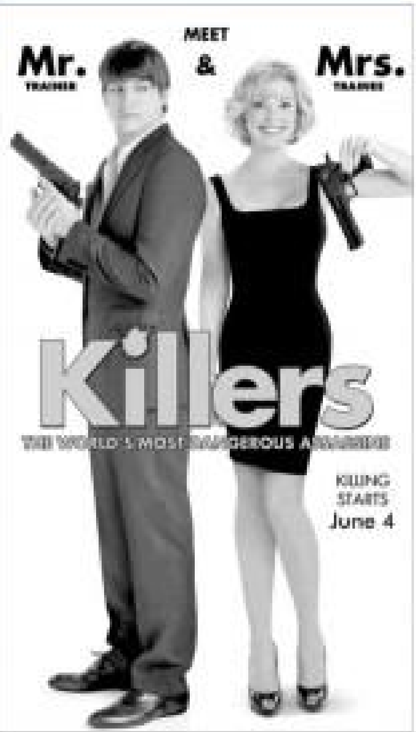
Reason to celebrate

Teary-eyed Juliette



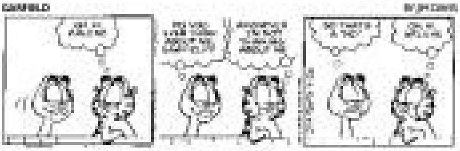
CHEER FACTOR

4-year-old MJ impersonator a thriller

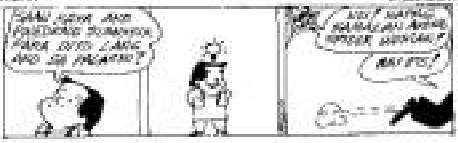




GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN



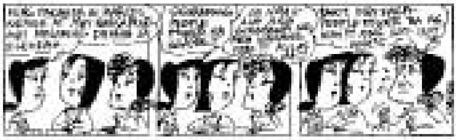
PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR



DICK TRACY



LOVEKNOTS



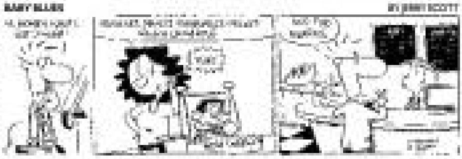
JAMES BOND



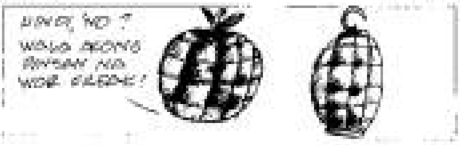
DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

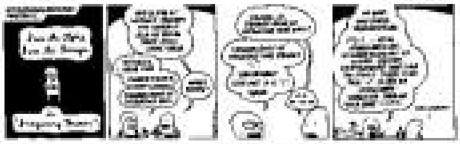


TULDOK

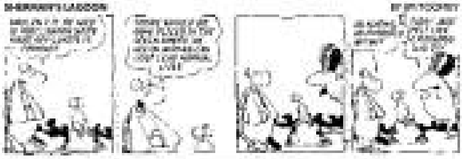


BEN



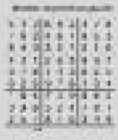


SHERMAN'S LAGOON



CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

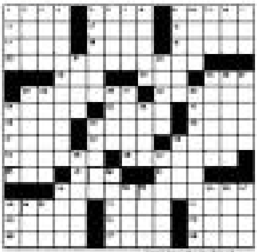
HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

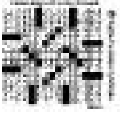


Conceptis Sudoku

	8	3			1			
5			3		6		1	
			7		2		4	
			6		4		5	
		5			3	2	6	8
	2						9	
1							7	
2							3	
3	5	6	4				8	

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



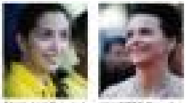




Transformative, traumatic 'Pacific'

CLICK!

Not always stunning



SHALANI Soledad

JULIETTE Binoche

Gay politician...

Top of the talk shows

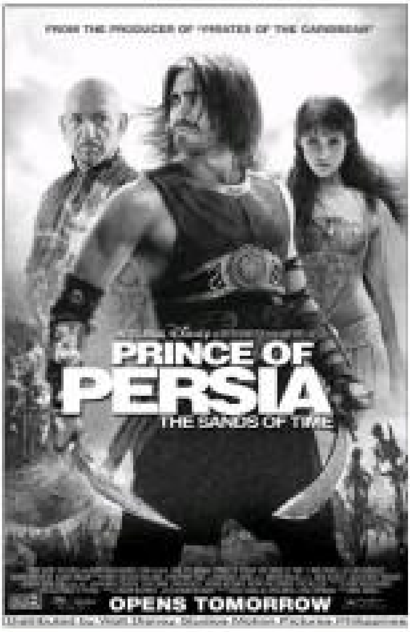
OPENING THIS WEEK

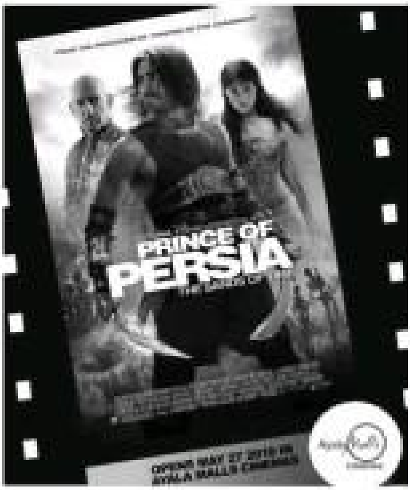




Noy

Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time





Gay . . .





'Fling' with filmmaking

Debuting director tells an unconventional 'boy-meets-girl' story

Shot in 9 days



LARA Morena is lead star/producer of "Fling."

Mariel 'so *kilig*' with Robin

DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal



MARIEL Rodriguez inspired